



e-News

June 11th, 2025

805 Western Ave., Joliet, IL 60435

815-727-9259

firstpresjoliet.org

A Letter from Lead Pastor Bo Mircea

Hey everyone, just a friendly reminder that Father's Day is this Sunday. I know for most dads, a relaxing day, maybe grilling some food and spending time with family sounds perfect. But this year, why not try something different? How about a hug, a prayer, and some words of encouragement and appreciation? And if you happen to remember your dad, or someone who filled in that role for you, I hope their memory brings you comfort and joy. Let's all take this day as a time to feel comforted and celebrate the wonderful gifts that God gives us, like a great father. Happy Father's Day to you all.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

I call Heaven and Earth to witness against you today: I place before you Life and Death, Blessing and Curse. Choose life so that you and your children will live. And love God, your God, listening obediently to him, firmly embracing him. Oh yes, he is life itself, a long life settled on the soil that God, your God, promised to give your ancestors, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

I find myself every week arguing with myself about Moses, and how many more sermons I need to preach about him. I have to tell you, it is getting harder and harder to just drop Moses out of the coming Sunday. I find the person of Moses amazing, not just in the contradictions that speak to his name, but also to the conviction and passion that lived in him. This coming Sunday we will talk about identity, about the things that make us tick, those things that speak to values, to core beliefs. If you could answer this question for yourself in the quiet of your heart before Sunday morning, you would do me a huge favor: At the end of the day what are the things that are important to me, the things that I will not compromise on, the things that speak to my life and direction?

I promise I will not quiz you on Sunday, but I pray we can have a good conversation on Moses.

Blessings,
Pastor Bo

Happening at 805 Western:

- **New Members Class** tonight at 6 pm in Fireside.
- **Dinner Out Group** this Thursday at 6 pm at Ming Hin in Naperville.
- **VBS training** dates are Wednesday June 18 at 5:30 pm and Saturday June 21 at 9 am.
- The **APNC** meets on June 18th.
- **Session** is meeting on June 19th.
- **Parking Lot work** is starting on Monday June 16th, please plan accordingly. Street parking is recommended as both lots will be unavailable, at the request of the company we are working with.
- **Cookies and Concerts - Harvest Arts** - June 28th at 7 pm and June 29th - Sunday Worship

I am sure I am forgetting something, but for once that is a good thing, as this time it speaks not just to a busy congregation, but to the many opportunities we have to serve the Lord with joy.

See you on Sunday 1st Pres.

Church Family

Prayers of health and healing for:

Jean Smietanski, Mary Jane Johnson, John Savage, Carrie (daughter of Lyle Weber), Mark Fumagalli, Pam LeVasseur, Al Brooks, Jana Rudisill, and Carolyn Schaeffer.

Prayers of peace and comfort for Fred Krueger as he is in hospice, and sympathies to his family, including Michael Krueger and Kaleigh Belfield.

Prayers for the family and friends of Kevin Breitbarth who passed on May 31. Service will be held at a later date.

Prayers for the family and friends of former member Betty Tryon, who passed on May 31 at age 105.

MENARDS REBATE COLLECTION

Drop your UNUSED Menards rebate receipts in the designated box in Hoffman Hall. Rebate coupons will be used strictly for Church improvement.

LOST AND FOUND

There is a Lost & Found table in Hoffman Hall for the next couple weeks. We have several coats, scarves, gloves, water bottles, etc. that have been left behind. Please take a look and see if any of the items belong to you.

UPDATE INFO

Has your information changed? Contact the church office to make sure your info is right for the new directory.

1(815)727-9259 office@firstpresjoliet.org

CONCERTS AND COOKIES

6/28 @7pm

A **Harvest Arts** concert of beloved hymns fused with classical music. Admission is free and afterwards there will be plenty of cookies to enjoy among friends and family. Harvest Arts will also be helping lead worship the next morning at the 10am worship service.

8/9 @6pm

The band **REVDOG** will be performing at First Pres, outside if the weather permits.

Admission is free so grab your family and friends and enjoy an evening of live music and tasty cookies!

Nursery care will be available for kids 2yrs and under.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

TONIGHT Wednesday June 11th, 6pm

If you are interested in learning more about FPJ and PCUSA, or are looking to join our membership, this is the class for you! Reach out to the church office or Pastor Bo if you are interested.

Nursery care will be provided.

Children's Church Corner

Faith Focus: Empowered: The Holy Spirit empowers us

Lesson for Sun. 6/15: The Holy Spirit Enacts—Acts 3:1-26

Bible Verse: "Love each other. Just as I have loved you, so you also must love each other." John 13:34

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Stewardship Report

2025-2026 Budget	\$707,600
Year to Date Income	\$95,956
Year to Date Expenses	\$96,331
Per Capita	\$44.00

You may text your gift to FPJ at (815)205-3044. You can give by mail, by online giving through our website using the "Give" tab, and through electronic giving.

Thank you for your generosity.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- Free Summer Lunch Program— M-F 11:30am –1pm
- Vacation Bible School—6/23-6/27

FREE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

June 5th through August 15th M-F 11:30am-1pm

Youths age 18 and younger are invited to stop in and be served a FREE nutritious lunch. Fridays are fun Bingo days! Reach out to Barb Rodgers if you would like to volunteer or to know how you can best support this ministry.

VBS 2025 TRUE NORTH

June 23rd-27th

True North VBS shows kids that God is a faithful friend we can always trust. He's our True North!
Folks 6th grade and up are invited to participate by donating their time and lending a hand in guiding the kids through this journey.

Register on our website today!

MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

ANGEL HOUSE—HOPE 27

Collected for Angel House & Hope 27 to date: \$515.00

First Pres is proudly showcasing our support of Angel House orphanage in Tanzania and Hope 27 which is another system of orphan care in Kenya. More information is in the case hanging by our great map. This is where each monthly mission will be showcased.

SAVE THE DATE— COMING UP

6/11 New Members Class

6/12 Dinner Out Group—Ming Hin

6/23-6/27 Vacation Bible School—registration is open

6/28 Concert and Cookies—Harvest Arts

8/9 Concert and Cookies—REVDOG

SUNDAY SERVANTS 6/15/25

USHERS: Sue Fordyce, Mark Dykema, Reed Mott

COFFEE: Sue and Reed Mott

LITURGIST: Holly Tomashek

ACOLYTE: Xavier DeNieuwe

SOUND: Rich Pool

VIDEO: Matt Blaser

GREETERS: Larry and Sunny Whitford, and Karen Luebbe

DINNER OUT GROUP

Thursday June 12th

Meet at Ming Hin (1633 W. Naper Blvd in Naperville) at 6pm for dinner. Contact Carol Kline to be included in the reservation.